

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/775,886

Examiner

Lewis A. Bullock, Jr.

Applicant(s)

MINAKAWA ET AL.

Art Unit

2126

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 6/25/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-22 and 27-46 now renumbered 1-42.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 10 January 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

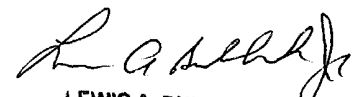
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


LEWIS A. BULLOCK, JR.
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Kurt Wong on 7/27/04.

The application has been amended as follows:

- Amend claim 1, line 1 by replacing "method" with "computer-implemented method".
- Amend claim 27, line 1 by replacing "method" with "computer-implemented method".

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:.

All of the claims are allowable for at least the following reasoning: Claims 10 and 21 indicate that the conversion rules are stored based on a plurality of categories wherein the first data associates a category of a plurality of categories with conversion rules such that the inspecting determines the code conversion category first, and then the conversion rule. None of the prior art of record teach the mapping of conversion rules to conversion categories as detailed in the claims. Claims 1-9, 11-20 and 22-46 indicate that for a given field that exists a plurality of conversion rules stored as first data and for each conversion rule exist

Art Unit: 2126

second data that associates a criteria for applying the conversion rule based on one or more other fields having zero or more other code values. The system converts the application code stored in the field by selecting a single conversion rule after inspecting the first and second data. The prior art at best teaches that selection of a single conversion rule out of a plurality of conversion rules based on the first data. The reference does not effectively teach the inspecting of a second data in addition to the first data in order to determine a single conversion rule from a plurality of conversion rules as argued by Applicant in the response. Publications, "EDI Through a Distributed Information Systems Approach" by Adam, "A Methodology of Application Program Analysis and Conversion based on Database Semantics" by Su, "Partially Shared Views: A Scheme for Communicating among Groups that use Different Type Hierarchies" by Lee, and "Billing Mediation Platform" by OpenCon Communication Systems, Inc. also do not teach the categorizing of conversion rules or the using of a second data that associates criteria for applying the conversion rules to the first data in order to select a conversion rule for converting field data. The publication prior art at best teaches general concepts of applying a conversion rule to map field / record data but does not demonstrate that the use of the second data or categorizing of the rules in order to perform the conversion as detailed in the claims. Therefore, the cited claims are allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should

Art Unit: 2126

preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lewis A. Bullock, Jr. whose telephone number is (703) 305-0439. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng An can be reached on (703) 305-9678. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



August 9, 2004

LEWIS A. BULLOCK, JR.
PRIMARY EXAMINER